(FIIS) during Rabi 2003-2004 season for wheat and rabi rice. The main features of the Pilot Project are:—

(i) A farmer's production and price risk for the crop produced by him,

*

would be protected by ensuring minimum guaranted income. If the actual income as a product of yield recorded during the season multiplied by prevailing market price fall short of the guaranted income per hectare (Average yield of past 7 years X indemnity level X MSP of current year) the farmer would be eligible for compensation to the extent of the difference between the guaranted income and the actual income.

(ii) The Pilot Project would cover Wheat and Rabi rice only in selected districts.

(iii) Procurement at MSP will be withdrawn in these districts in respect of the selected crops.

(iv) As under the NAIS, the FIIS would be compulsory for farmers availing seasonal agricultural operations loans from financial institutions and optional for non-loanee farmers.

(v) A premium subsidy of 75% is proposed to be given in case of small and marginal farmers and 50% for other farmers.

(vi) The pilot project will be implemented by the Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (AIC), New Delhi.

Assistance to SC/ST farmers of M.P.

347. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to release the fund from the contingency fund to help the SCs/STs and Backward agriculturists in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) No, Sir.